CLAIMS:

1. An encoding method applied to an input video sequence corresponding to successive scenes subdivided into successive video object planes (VOPs) and generating, for coding all the video objects of said scenes, a coded bitstream constituted of encoded video data in which each data item is described by means of a bitstream syntax allowing to recognize and decode all the elements of the content of said bitstream, said content being described in terms of separate channels, said method being further characterized in that said syntax comprises specific syntactic means for separately describing the spatial resolution of each channel.

2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that said syntactic means comprise, for each channel, specific syntactic elements for separately describing the spatial resolution of each image of the input sequence.

3. A method according to claim 2, characterized in that said separate description of the spatial resolution of each image of the input sequence is optional.

4. A method according to anyone of claims 2 and 3, characterized in that, for each channel, said syntactic means comprise syntactic elements for describing the spatial resolution of the current image of the input sequence with respect to the spatial resolution of the previous image in the same channel.

5. A method according to anyone of claims 2 to 4, characterized in that, for each channel and for each image, the spatial resolution is described with respect to a reference spatial resolution.

6. A method according to claim 5, characterized in that said reference spatial resolution is a predetermined spatial resolution indicated at the beginning of the bitstream.

7. A method according to claim 5, characterized in that said reference spatial resolution is the spatial resolution of one of the channels.

8. A method according to anyone of claims 5 to 7, characterized in that the spatial resolution is described by means of a division of said predetermined reference spatial resolution.

9. A method according to anyone of claims 5 to 7, characterized in that the spatial resolution is described by means of a multiplication of said predetermined reference spatial resolution.

10. A device for encoding a video sequence corresponding to successive scenes subdivided into successive video object planes (VOPs), said device comprising means for structuring each scene of said sequence as a composition of video objects (VOs), means for coding the shape, the motion and the texture of each of said VOs, and means for multiplexing the coded elementary streams thus obtained into a single coded bitstream constituted of encoded video data in which each data item is described by means of a bitstream syntax allowing to recognize and decode all the elements of the content of said bitstream, said content being described in terms of separate channels, said device being further characterized in that said multiplexing means comprise means for introducing into said single bitstream a specific information for separately describing the spatial resolution of each of said separate channels.

11. A transmittable video signal consisting of a coded bitstream generated by an encoding method applied to a sequence corresponding to successive scenes subdivided into successive video object planes (VOPs), said coded bitstream, generated for coding all the video objects of said scenes, being constituted of encoded video data in which each data item is described by means of a bitstream syntax allowing to recognize and decode all the elements of the content of said bitstream, said content being described in terms of separate channels, said signal being further characterized in that it includes a specific information for separately describing the spatial resolution of each of said separate channels.

12. A device for receiving and decoding a video signal consisting of a coded bitstream generated by an encoding method applied to a video sequence corresponding to

successive scenes subdivided into successive video object planes (VOPs), said coded bitstream, generated for coding all the video objects of said scenes, being constituted of encoded video data in which each data item is described by means of a bitstream syntax allowing to recognize and decode all the elements of the content of said bitstream, said content being described in terms of separate channels, and moreover comprising a specific information for separately describing the spatial resolution of each of said separate channels, said decoding device being further characterized in that it includes means for reading in the received coded bitstream the specific spatial resolution of each of said separate channels.